

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 SAN JO 04720 140014Z
ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 CA-01 DHA-05 H-02 MED-03
/026 W

-----116364 141945Z /64

R 131725Z OCT 77
FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9009

UNCLAS SAN JOSE 4720

ATTN: SCS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: CARR: EMDA
SUBJECT: EMERGENCY MEDICAL AND DIETARY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR
AMERICANS IMPRISONED ABROAD

REF: STATE 239758

1. EMBASSY REQUESTS CLARIFICATION REFTTEL REGARDING QUOTE
DIETARY SUPPLEMENTS ARE FUNDED ONLY WHEN THE NORMAL
PRISON FARE HAS BEEN MEDICALLY EVALUATED AS BEING
INADEQUATE TO MAINTAIN AN ACCEPTABLE STANDARD OF
HEALTH. UNQUOTE. (A) DOES DEPARTMENT PLAN TO ISSUE
GUIDANCE REGARDING AN ACCEPTABLE STANDARD OF DIET TO
MAINTAIN HEALTH? (B) WHO SHOULD DO THE MEDICAL
EVALUATION OF PRISON FACILITIES? (C) ARE FUNDS
ALLOCATED FOR THIS EXAMINATION?

2. AMERICAN PRISONERS AT THE CENTRAL PENITENTIARY IN SAN
JOSE RECENTLY PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION
ABOUT THEIR DIET. THEY CLAIM NOT TO EAT ANY BREAK-
FAST BECAUSE IT CONSISTS ONLY OF BREAD AND COFFEE
AND SERVED BETWEEN THREE AND FOUR IN THE MORNING.
BEANS AND RICE ARE THE BASIC DIET FOR DINNER AND
LUNCH. THIS VARIES ONLY ON WEDNESDAY WHEN SOUP IS
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ON. A CUP OF MILK IS SERVED ABOUT THREE TIMES PER
WEEK.

3. IT IS COMMON KNOWLEDGE THAT ONLY A SURVIVAL DIET IS
PROVIDED AT THE PENITENTIARY. ANY SUPPLEMENT TO THE
MENU MUST BE PROVIDED BY FAMILY MEMBERS, FRIENDS, OR
PURCHASED BY THE PRISONERS THEMSELVES. IF FUNDS ARE

AVAILABLE TO THOSE INCARCERATED, ALMOST ANY TYPE OF
FOOD ITEM CAN BE BOUGHT WITHIN THE PRISON.

4. EMBASSY HAS ONE PRISONER IN THE PENITENTIARY WHO HAS
EXHAUSED ALL SOURCES FOR FUNDS AND WITHOUT FAMILY
OR FRIENDS TO ASSIST. CONSUL ESTIMATES IT WOULD COST
APPROXIMATELY FOUR DOLLARS DAILY FOR SUBJECT TO
PURCHASE FOOD SUPPLEMENT WITHIN PRISON. PLEASE
ADVICE IF THIS PERSON WOULD BE ELIGIBLE UNDER EMDA
PROGRAM.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Sent Date: 13-Oct-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Drafter: n/a
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